REMARKS

Applicants respectfully point out that the restriction requirement is in error. Thus, the

restriction requirement divides the subject matter of claims 1-16 into four groups. However,

Applicants point out that the Preliminary Amendment filed July 7, 2005, cancels claims 1-16

in favor of new claims 17-55, which the Examiner does not group or otherwise mention in the

restriction requirement. Applicants have checked and the Preliminary Amendment is in the

image filewrapper in public PAIR. Consequently, the Preliminary Amendment is of record

and should have been taken into account in formulating the restriction requirement.

Applicants attempted to reply to the restriction requirement based on what the

groupings should look like if the claims in the preliminary amendment were taken into

account (and the undersigned left the Examiner a voicemail to that effect). However, it

proved to be impossible as it was not clear to Applicants how claims 53-55 would be grouped

or some of the other claims as well.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a new restriction

requirement taking into consideration the claims in the Preliminary Amendment.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Response to Restriction Requirement

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